

**Peace Lutheran Church**  
2355 Clark Rd.,  
P.O. Box 655  
Dresser, WI 54009



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Dresser, WI 54009  
Permit No. 3

**December 2023 & January 2024**

**PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Church Office: 715-755-2515  
Email: [plcdresseroffice@gmail.com](mailto:plcdresseroffice@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.plcdresser.org](http://www.plcdresser.org)  
Find us on facebook!  
Online Worship Services:  
[youtube.com/peacelutherandresser](https://youtube.com/peacelutherandresser)

**PLEASE** use our Post Office box  
(not our street address)  
when mailing something to Peace!  
PO Box 655, Dresser, WI 54009

*News  
from  
Peace!*

## Engage: [More than] Traditions

*So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us...  
2 Thessalonians 2:15*

I just spent 4 days with my girls and my mom baking Christmas cookies. It's a tradition that we have and look forward to every year. We bake way too many cookies that we don't need, we make messes that we have to clean up, we are exhausted at the end of the time together, but yet we cherish this intentional time of laughter, joy, mishaps, and, of course, sharing the hundreds of cookies that we bake with others. It's a tradition, but it's so much more.

On Christmas eve, my family will come here to worship at Peace, we will head home between services and enjoy dinner with my parents, nephew, and his family. There will be chaos and the house will be ripped apart in less than an hour, and there will be milk spills and toddler tantrums, and over-hyped children that can't control themselves. But yet, we will all sit together at a large dinner table, we will read the story of Jesus' birth, we will share in the joy and love of family together, and we will thank God for the gift of family and the gift of Jesus that God has given us. It's a tradition, but it's so much more.

Here at Peace, we light advent candles each Sunday in worship, we hear the story of Jesus' birth through song during the choir cantata, and we see it through the wonder of a child during the Sunday School Christmas program. We stand with live animals and experience Jesus' birth through the live Nativity, and we pass down the story of Jesus' birth from generation to generation. These are all traditions of Peace, but they are so much more.

Through Christmas traditions in particular, faith weaves a thread that ties us to our past, present, and future. It prompts us to look beyond the material aspects of the season and embrace the intangible gifts of love, hope, and joy. Traditions are an opportunity to renew our faith in the bonds that connect us, to find solace in the midst of challenges, and to cherish the moments of togetherness that make this season truly special. May this Christmas season be a time when faith becomes a guiding light, illuminating our hearts and spreading warmth to all those around us.

See you in Church!

*Pastor Melissa*

### Join us in traditions!

- Dec. 10th Children's Christmas Program (11am)
- Dec. 13th Live Nativity (see inside for more details)
- Dec. 17th Choir Cantata (9am)
- Dec. 24th Christmas Eve Candlelit Services (2pm, 4pm, 10pm)



# FROM THE OFFICE

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**November 10:** Funeral service of Opal Parel

**November Attendance:**

5th: 152 12th: 171 19th: 110 26th: 122

**Giving in November** (does not include Nov. 26): Budget/Missions \$25,950 / \$580

Additional giving this month:

\$150-Mortgage Principal, \$150-One Step Forward (TeacHaiti)

Needed each week: \$10,326

**Welcome to the following new members. We are so glad that you are a part of Peace!**

Kevin Anderson, (Luke, Cooper, Kaylee, Elizabeth, Maxine), 300 N. State Rd. Balsam Lake

Tina Anderson, 300 N. State Rd. Balsam Lake

Nathan & Casey Betow, (Natalie), 2714 55th Ave., Osceola

Keith & Lisa Ruehlow, 921 Sunflower Way, Amery

Bryan Score & Jessica Lieftring (Bennett, Landon, Jordyn) 603 220th St., Osceola

Gary & Wendy Swanson, 1238 208th St., St. Croix Falls



# CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

## SS Program

Sunday, December 10th. Our 9:00 service will be our regular worship service. Our Sunday School children will present their program at 11:00 am.

## Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 17th at our 9:00 am Worship Service

## Happy Birthday, Jesus! (Sunday School Celebration)

Sunday, December 17th, 10:00 am

## Live Nativity

Weds., December 13th,

5:30pm Join us for Dinner (Lasagna) before the Nativity

6:00-7:15 Live Nativity

6:00-7:00 pm Soup & Hot Drinks available

6:21 pm Christmas Reading/Hymns



## Christmas Eve!!

2:00, 4:00 & 10:00pm: Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

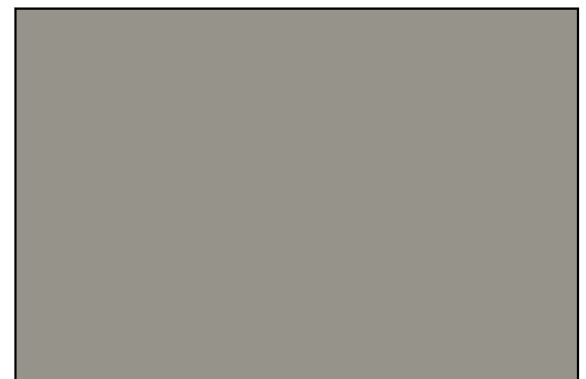
Join us in our traditional candlelight service as we celebrate the birth of our Lord.

## Service of Lessons & Carols

Sunday, Dec. 31st-9:00 am



**2nd Grade Milestone  
"Kids & Money"**  
The student & parent class project was Give/Save/Spend.





# 7th-12th GRADE YOUTH

## High School Youth Programming Updates:

**\*A reminder to all students:** *If either SCF or OHS closes or is cancelled due to inclement weather, church activities will be cancelled as well.*

Wednesday Nights: 6:30pm Pizza Dinner (\$3), 7:00pm-8:00pm Programming

**December 6** - Confirmation & Youth Group

**December 13** - Live Nativity (6:30-7:30pm) - Families invited!

**December 20** - Christmas Parties (Wear your best Ugly Christmas Sweater!)

**December 27** - No Programming (Merry Christmas!)

**January 3** - Confirmation & Youth Group

**January 10** - Confirmation & Youth Group

**January 17** - Confirmation & Youth Group

**January 24** - Confirmation & Youth Group

**January 31** - Confirmation & Youth Group

Confirmation photos are here! They are located at the Welcome Center. If you have a balance due, please pay that amount when you pick up the photos. Thank you!

## Christmas Fundraiser Order Form

Orders are due by Sunday, Dec. 10th and will be delivered to church on Sunday, Dec. 17th. Order forms are also available at the church.

### Customer Info:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Order Details:

Rosettes (pkg. 4) \$6 How many pkgs.? \_\_\_\_

Rosettes (pkg. 12) \$15 How many pkgs.? \_\_\_\_

Christmas Cookies (pkg. 24) \$15 How many pkgs.? \_\_\_\_

Peanut Brittle \$10 How many? \_\_\_\_

Total Cost: \$ \_\_\_\_

Cash or Check must accompany order.

Checks payable to Peace Lutheran Youth

**PEACE LUTHERAN**  
**MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER**  
2355 CLARK ROAD, DRESSER, WI

ROSETTES (QTY 4) ..... \$6.00	PEANUT BRITTLE (12OZ)...\$10.00
ROSETTES (QTY 12)..... \$15.00	

CHRISTMAS COOKIES (QTY 24) ..... \$15.00

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LINDSTROM BAKERY, LINDSTROM MN  
 PEACE LUTHERAN 715-755-2515 | ORDER DEADLINE: DECEMBER 10, 2023  
 GOODIES DELIVERED TO CHURCH: DECEMBER 17, 2023  
 Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# Children, Youth & Families

## [Almost] FREE SUMMER CAMP for 3RD & 4TH GRADERS!!

(You pay a \$50 Deposit...we pay the rest!!)

That's right... We believe Camp is such an incredible experience and important part of how we grow in our faith that Peace Lutheran will be sending all current 3rd & 4th grade students to camp for FREE. We ask that each camper pay a deposit of \$50 (scholarships available if needed), but the rest will be covered by fundraising and generous donations from Peace Members.

Luther Point Bible Camp has many different camp options available for this age group (from 2 days to 5 days), so we hope there is an option for everyone! Give it a try and head to camp this summer!!

**\*\*Peace Weeks will be June 23-28** (4th grade full camp) or **June 30-July 2** (3rd & 4th grade 1/2 week camp). If you can't make one of those dates, you can sign up for any date the camp offers!! Check out [www.lutherpoint.org](http://www.lutherpoint.org) for more options.

## Let's Celebrate Jesus!

All children are invited to help us celebrate at a special birthday party for Jesus on **Sunday, Dec 17 at 10:00 am**, during Sunday School. We will play games, eat treats, make craft projects and enjoy our time together as we celebrate our greatest gift of all, our Savior, Jesus!

There will be no Sunday School on Dec 24 or 31st. Enjoy the holidays with your family and we look forward to continuing our Sunday School classes on January 7.

## CHRISTMAS PROGRAM IMPORTANT DATES

### DECEMBER 3RD

Practice during Sunday School Hour

### DECEMBER 9TH

Rehearsal 9:30am-noon

### DECEMBER 10TH

Practice during Sunday School Hour

### DECEMBER 10TH

Program at 11:00 am

### DECEMBER 17TH

Sunday School "Happy Birthday Jesus" Celebration @ 10:00 am

A special THANK YOU to Michele Merritt for leading the Christmas Program, the teachers and classroom helpers for being with their class during rehearsals, the parents who brought treats and/or helped in any way, and Tammy Brenizer for her media expertise.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:00 am Service 10:00 am SS, Choir	4	5 9am Staff Mtg	6 8:30 am Quilting, Staff Mtg 6:21 pm Dinner 7 pm Confirmation & HS Youth	7 7pm-AA	8	9
10 9:00 am Service, 11:00 SS Christ- mas Prog. 10 am SS, Choir prac- tice	11	12 9am Staff Mtg	13 8:30 am Quilting 5:30 pm Dinner 6-7pm Live Nativi- ty	14 7pm-AA	15	16
17 9:00 am Service with Choir Cantata 10:00am SS, Choir practice	18	19 9am Staff Mtg  1:30pm Rachel Circle	20  6:21pm Dinner 7pm Confirmation & HS Youth Christmas Party	21 7pm-AA	22	23
24 2pm, 4pm & 10 pm Christmas Eve Services  31 9:00 am Service	25	26 9am Staff Mtg	27 Blood Drive at Peace! Noon-6:30pm No Confirmation or HS Youth Group	28 7pm-AA	29	30

### December Usher/Lay Reader Schedule

Dec. 3	Usher Reader	Eric Mayer family Anne Miller Solsrud
Dec. 10	Usher Reader	Paul Lindholm/Dick Blattner Jan Museus
Dec. 17	Usher No Reader—Cantata	Mark & Maria Gjovig
Dec. 24	4:00 pm Todd/Prokop families	

**Ushers needed:** 2:00 & 10:00 pm. Contact the office please if you are willing to usher.

Dec. 31st	Usher Reader	Steve & Karrie Swenson Karrie Swenson
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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 9:00 am Staff Mtg	3 8:30 am Quilting 6:21pm Dinner, 7 pm Confirmation & HS Youth	4 8:30-Noon Apple River Conf. @ Peace 7pm-AA	5	6
7 9:00 am Service, 10:00 am SS, Choir	8	9 9am Staff Mtg	10 8:30 am Quilting 5:30pm Dinner, 6:21pm Church, 7pm Confirmation & HS Youth	11  7pm-AA	12	13
14 9:00 am Service, 10:00 am SS, Choir	15	16 9am Staff Mtg 2:00 pm Care-giver Support	17 8:30 am Quilting 6:21pm Dinner, 7 pm Confirmation & HS Youth	18 7:00 pm Council Mtg  7pm-AA	19	20
21 9:00 am Service, 10:00 am SS, Choir	22	23 9am Staff Mtg 1:30 pm Rachel Circle	24 8:30 am Quilting 6:21pm Dinner, 7 pm Confirmation & HS Youth	25  7pm-AA	26	27
28 9:00 am Service, 10:00 am SS, Congregational Mtg	29	30 9am Staff Mtg	31 8:30 am Quilting 6:21pm Dinner, 7 pm Confirmation & HS Youth			

### January Usher/Lay Reader Schedule

Jan. 7	Usher Reader	Chad & Trisha Slater Michele Merritt
Jan. 14	Usher Reader	Tom & Linda Moore Pat Kirby
Jan. 21	Usher Reader	Chris & Claire Chinander Claire Chinander
Jan. 28	Usher Reader	Jeff Hall family Melissa Hall



# THIS-N-THAT

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## **Inclement Weather Rule**

If St. Croix Falls or Osceola Schools are closed or release early due to winter weather conditions, there will be no events (Confirmation, meetings, etc.) at church that evening. If there is a large snowstorm on a scheduled worship day, we post a decision to stay open or close on the PLC facebook page, website and send out a group email. As much as we want to have YOU at our worship services, we want you and your family to be safe!



- ◆ to everyone who baked bread for our Thanksgiving Bread Service-it was delicious!
- ◆ to Vicky Simpkins for all her work making the Bazaar a success!
- ◆ to those who brought baked goods, served or shopped at the Bazaar
- ◆ to Sue DeMenge and Lori Kromrey for the outside Christmas decorations
- ◆ to all who purchased gifts for the Blessing Basket program

## **Help Wanted:**

- ◆ Ushers for the 2:00 & 10:00 pm Christmas Eve Services.
- ◆ Registration help at the Blood Drive at Peace on Weds., Dec. 27th. Two shifts available: noon-3 and 3-6pm. Please let Pat know if you can help!
- ◆ Someone to deliver the Blessing Basket gifts to Osceola on Monday, Dec. 4th.

## **Maple Syrup for the Holidays!**

Don't forget to stock up on Maple Syrup for the holidays! These make great Christmas gifts, teacher gifts, or host/hostess gifts! Stock up today! (Please note, due to glass supply shortage, we may not have all the holiday variety of bottles that we have had in the past).

## **Kwik Trip Cards for the Holidays!**

Kwik Trip Cards are selling fast, and when they are gone, they're gone! Get yours now for the holiday season (they make great gifts)! Youth will be selling these cards between services each week in December, or you may purchase them directly through a student attending the summer mission trip. The high school mission trip receives 10% of all purchases (20% for in-store cards only).

## **2025 All Church Mission Trip to Jamaica**

**Registrations & deposits are due  
January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

We are heading to Jamaica and you still have time to join us! This mission trip is open to the entire congregation and will be taking place in March 2025. (ages 15 and younger must be accompanied by a parent/guardian).

This trip is open to all Peace Lutheran members and non-members as well! For more information, or to register, contact Pastor Melissa ([plcyouthpastor@gmail.com](mailto:plcyouthpastor@gmail.com)). Registrations and a non-refundable \$200 deposit is due by February 4th, 2024. This trip is expected to fill up, so registrations will be taken on a first come, first serve basis.

# DECEMBER



2nd	Bob Todd Terry Baillargeon Amy Succo Paige Dvorak Addyson Williams Bjorn Peterson	10th	Rosella Geving Lexi Kromrey	20th	Jennifer Berg Adalyn Benson
3rd	Lloyd Kobs Pat Kirby	11th	Lindsey Lundeen	21st	Jill Hinze
4th	Tim Pauley Duane Vanderwerf Linda Ellefson Case Hanson	12th	Bill Stevenson Steven Kromrey	22nd	Bruce LaMirande Michele Merritt
5th	Paul Lindholm	14th	Mary Johnson Hannah Tracy Graidy Guggisberg	23rd	Jerry Koosman Aubrey Haase
6th	Dave Stephansen Gary LaMirande Dawn Tunison	15th	Kevin Campbell Holli Haase	24th	Mary Swenson
7th	Jocelyn Tate	16th	Joe Rysdam	25th	Jeff Moryn
8th	Karen Elkin Scott Demulling Sylvia Demulling Luke Anderson Cooper Anderson	17th	Diane Lechman Doug Johnson John Haley Aleah Jensen Violet Gorski	27th	Maria Gjovig Margie Johnson
		18th	Josiah Walstead	29th	Patrick Tracy
		19th	Jeff Elkin Emma Fehlen Brooklyn Miller	30th	Melodie Needham Charlies Haines
				31st	Kynzlee Berg Gavin Olson Ryah Corbett Jamison Berg



# JANUAR

1st	Jerry Succo Sam Schiebel	13th	Virgil Koehler Bill Tunison Noah Larson	24th	Emily Tebben Trinity Krueger
2nd	Jim Lechman Brandon Robinson	15th	Lynn Lindholm	25th	Jason Swanson
3rd	Ann Moryn Maxine Anderson	16th	Pat Carlson	26th	Paul Arndt
4th	Debbie Museus Matt Adam	17th	Shirley Sims Heidi Tomforde Kevin Western Amy Sheehan	28th	Julie Leisch
5th	Tom Reeck	18th	Kayla Rondeau Dylan Haase	29th	Drew Willeman
6th	Kaija Newman Emilie Glenna	21st	Miranda Hartman Brody Williams	30th	Heidi Schrock Mitchell Steele
11th	Mickey Raska Trevor Scholz	22nd	Rebecca Berg Colton Koehler	31st	Lisa Richert Cade Rysdam Easton Maloney
12th	Tenley Dvorak Anne Prokop				

*“When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with His mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold, and of frankincense, and of myrrh.”*

Matthew 2:10-11, NIV.

Matthew is the only one of the gospel writers to report this charming story, perhaps because of Matthew’s objectives, one of which was to identify Jesus as a king. The story has been retold time and again over the centuries, and has been incorrectly modified in many ways. Legend has it that there were three visitors, which Matthew did not specify; they have been identified as kings, which they were not; and they have even been given names. Their actions, though, have given rise to the tradition of Christmas giving which we practice and (mostly) enjoy to this day. We celebrate the faith they displayed when, realizing the significance of God’s gift of Emanuel—God with us—, they responded by searching for and finding Jesus, worshipping Him, and generously sharing of their treasures to honor His presence. We would do well to emulate them, at Christmas and throughout the year, by generously sharing our time, talents, and treasure.

See you next month!

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### **Peace Lutheran Church Congregational Meeting November 12, 2023**

The meeting to present the Proposed 2024 Budget for Peace Lutheran Church of Dresser, WI was called to order at 10:10 am on Sunday November 12, 2023. Pastor Melissa opened the meeting with prayer. The Council initiated the discussion by expressing gratitude to the congregation for its generosity. At the end of October, if you include designated gifts, we are very close to meeting our annual budget for 2023.

In preparation of 2024 your council decided to present a bold proposal to the congregation. This proposal would allow for two full-time pastors each with their own full-time executive administrator. This proposal would allow for a Youth Pastor to lead all initiatives and programs for disciples from age 0 to 30 and another full-time Pastor to lead all initiatives and programs for disciples age 31 and over. This would allow for more focus on the congregational priorities and expressed in the congregational survey. The Council also recommended in this proposal to move away from Portico as the benefits provider for our Pastor and other eligible church employees. Based on work completed by the Parish Relations Committee, we feel we can provide comparable or better benefits that would better advantage the Pastor and other eligible employees while also reducing costs to our Church.

There was also discussion around moving some outside fundraising activities into the budget as benevolence items in order to reduce the historical designated giving we have experienced. This would provide more flexibility for the Council to pay our expenses without liquidity concerns due to the restrictions.

The Council would like for the Congregation to focus on just 2 non-budget items.

- 1) is to reduce/payoff the mortgage.
- 2) is to prepare for furnace replacements that may be necessary in the next several years.

Due to the significant level of change being proposed, it was determined we would wait until January to discuss the proposed budget further as it would allow our congregation to further review the proposal and allow time for reflection and prayer.

The Council will announce the next meeting to be held in January and will provide a temple talk or two in the interim.

Closing prayer led by Pastor Melissa 11:20 am.

# Worship SCHEDULE

9:00 am Worship Service  
10:00 am Sunday School, Choir Practice  
Livestream is at 9:00 am.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services  
2:00, 4:00 & 10:00 pm



Peace Choir



## CHURCH STAFF Contact Information

**Pastor Melissa Carmack**

651-338-7459 (cell)

Email: [plcyouthpastor@gmail.com](mailto:plcyouthpastor@gmail.com)

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**Director of Media Tammy Brenizer**

Email: [plcdressermedia@gmail.com](mailto:plcdressermedia@gmail.com)

**Accompanists Ronda Haley, Karen Hale**

**Custodian Jerry Rosenow**

**Bookkeepers**

Cheryl Bjornstad, Pete Peterson